

TELECON
Mr. Buckley/The Secretary
July 21, 1975
Time: 5:03 p.m.

SG 40

RELEASED IN PART
B6

K: How are you?

B: I am fine. I am sorry I can't have dinner with you and Nancy.

K: It is mostly Nancy's doing.

B: How are you?

K: Fine. I got your little needle just now. The next TV program I do is with you. That is a firm promise.

B: O.K.

K: Your only handicap is that you are too bright -- you wouldn't let me get away with anything.

B: I haven't seen you ever to be in trouble. I don't like to prod you on these things.

K: You are right. Let's do it in August.

B: O.K. What should I do -- the usual.....

K: Call me early in August and when I know whether I have to go to the Middle East again, I will give you a firm answer. It may have to slip to September, if I have to go to the Middle East.

B: Larry is no longer with you?

K: No, he is still here, but in a different job. You should call Jerry Bremer.

B: I look forward to seeing you.

K: We will renew the suggestion for dinner. Both Nancy and I have decided that we never have dinner with the people we like.

B: I will maintain that as a secret. I am having a program with Halpern.

[REDACTED]

B6

K: [REDACTED] He is pursuing it with great intensity -- getting depositions from Nixon, etc.

B6

B: If I find the script interesting, I will send you excerpts from it.

K: While I have you on the line, may I make a suggestion. A lot of conservatives are screaming that the Security Conference is sanctifying the Soviet presence in Europe. The Conference wasn't our idea. It isn't something I am proud of. Our instructions to our men were to stay 1/2 a step behind the Europeans. Insofar as anything of substance in the conference is concerned, it should be looked at as a provision for peaceful change. The territorial integrity issue is something they have gone over for years. The French, British and Germans had already made their bilateral agreements. It is more in the direction of change than sanctification.

B: Do you think it is interpreted that way?

K: The Soviets started down a certain course and they are pursuing it. Heads of government shouldn't meet for something that isn't that important. It isn't in our interests to build up something that isn't that important.

B: Then why is the President going?

K: Because we were the last head of government to agree.

B: In terms of our allies?

K: Giscard, Wilson and Schmidt had agreed months before we had. I am not saying it won't be a great achievement. Look that isn't why I called you. I called because I was stung by your hard-written note.

B: I am taking lessons in sarcasm.

K: You started from a pretty high plateau.

B: (Laughter) Bye.

K: O.K.